



W2NPT

The Resonator

Volume 2, Number 9

www.FairLawnARC.org

September 2017

The Official Newsletter of The Fair Lawn (NJ) Amateur Radio Club

From The President:

August was certainly a month to remember -

To start - Steve (WI2W) and the Portable Antenna project. The interest in this was outstanding with so many members taking part around the work bench. This project will continue in the near future due to so many more ham radio people wanting their own portable antenna.

At the same time we had Brad 's (KD2GNY) "Communication Trailer" having its grand opening that Friday night too. He certainly put many hours of labor to make this happen for himself and for club use upon request.

Listening to our "Memory Lane" past and present members was so interesting. We all seemed to have learned something about how and where the amateur radio club started. The candidates spoke of many memories that were shared between them and brought a few tears along the way.

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New Member Profile

NAME: **Bob Holstrom** CALL: **KD2BKD**

What do you do/what did you do for a living?

I get to play with the latest audio and remote control products, in the design engineering department, as a test engineer, at a local manufacturer of advanced control and automation products. I specialize in automating the design validation processes for audio devices, but also test many of the other products. Prior to this I was a production test engineer in the fields of closed circuit television, audio amplifiers, and at an aerospace engineering company.

How did you get interested in ham radio?

I have always been interested in electronics, radios, computers, and similar technologies. Back in the 1970s I was into CBs and stereo audio systems. The 1980s I was into computers and robotics. The 1990s brought in home automation. 2000s brought a convergence of audio, computers, and home automation. 2010s brought me back to radios but this time amateur radio for emergency communications.

I was a scout leader and told my wife I would contact her via cell phone when we got to camp. There was no cell service. I was planning to bring more high adventure outings to the scouts and thought if there was an emergency in the back country how the situation could be handled.

I then heard of a prominent scout leader running a class and test for amateur radio license. I asked him, "If I had a hand held amateur radio if I could use it to call for assistance?" The answer was yes. I then took the test and passed.

Continued on page 2.

The Club

Fair Lawn ARC is the fastest growing ham club around, with five operating positions in a permanent clubhouse. Visitors and guests are always welcome. The club is open every Friday night from NLT 6:30 PM. Business meetings are the first Friday of the month at 7:30PM.

2017 Officers and Committees

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------|
| President | Judith Shaw | KC2LTM |
| Vice President | Fred Wawra | W2ABE |
| Treasurer | Nancy Beattie | N2FWI |
| Secretary | Randy Smith | WU2S |
| Trustee | J Cooper | W2JC |
| Trustee | Dave Marotti | NK2Q |
| Trustee | Steve Wraga | WA2BYX |
| <i>Field Day</i> | Steve Wraga | WA2BYX |
| <i>Health and Welfare</i> | Al Rasmussen | WA2OWL |
| <i>Speakers</i> | Lowell Vant Slot | W2DLT |
| <i>Publicity</i> | Ed Efchak | WX2R |
| <i>Publicity</i> | Gene Ottenheimer | WO2W |
| <i>Publicity</i> | Susan Frank | W6SKT |
| <i>Program</i> | Lowell Vant Slot | W2DLT |
| <i>Publicity</i> | Al Rasmussen | WA2OWL |
| <i>Publicity</i> | Karl Frank | W2KBF |
| <i>Publicity</i> | Judith Shaw (ex officio) | KC2LTM |
| <i>Social Media</i> | Dave Marotti | NK2Q |
| <i>Video/YouTube</i> | Thom Guida | W2NZ |
| <i>VE Liaison</i> | Gene Ottenheimer | WO2W |
| <i>VE Liaison</i> | Pete Senesi | KD2BMX |
| <i>Education</i> | Gordon Beattie | W2TTT |
| <i>Education</i> | Fred Wawra | W2ABE |
| <i>History</i> | Gene Ottenheimer | WO2W |
| <i>History</i> | Lowell Vant Slot | W2DLT |
| <i>History</i> | Rosalyn Roimisher | KD2GKA |
| <i>Photographer</i> | Don Cassarini | N2PRT |
| <i>W2NPT Trustee</i> | Paul Cornett | W2IP |
| <i>Technical</i> | Paul Cornett | W2IP |
| <i>Technical</i> | Randy Smith | NU2S |
| RACES Liaison | Steve Wraga | WA2BYX |
| | | |
| <i>Newsletter Editor</i> | Ed Efchak | WX2R |

Member Profile (Continued)

What parts of the hobby most interest you?

Originally in the hobby I was just interested in being able to have emergency communications as a scout leader when cell phone coverage was not available. I would carry a 2m/70cm HT on all trips. I still do EmComm as a CERT and BCRACES operator for my town. Now I am most interested in UHF DMR, SDR, and Broadband Mesh Networking. There are other parts of the hobby, "HF", which I will get into eventually.

What does belonging to FLARC mean to you?

How do you/can you better contribute to the club?

The people of FLARC are all so friendly and helpful. I was having questions/problems with my car antenna system and was helped greatly by a member of FLARC. It is great to have the resources, both equipment and knowledgeable members, to help solve problems and help setup radio systems safely and correctly.

I am a technical person who learns by application and would like to help others learn about different parts of the hobby like antenna fabrication and UHF/SHF digital parts of the hobby.

What should be the club's priorities in the next year?

To get the word out that there are new digital type systems in amateur radio that the younger generation may be interested in. The convergence of computers and amateur radio has been around for decades which many outside people are not aware of but may be interested in.



Continued on page 2.

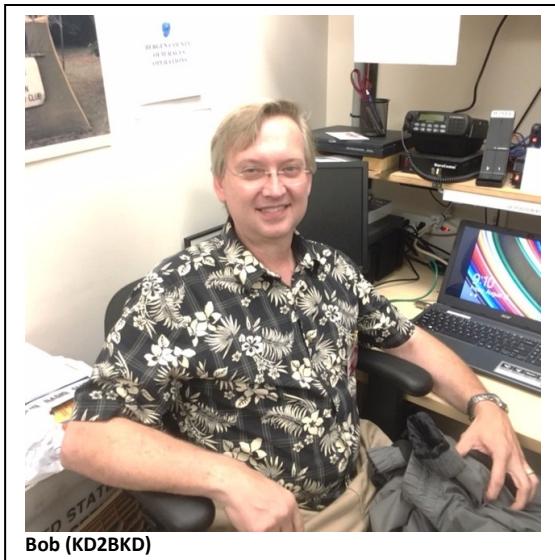
Member Profile (Continued)

What else can you tell the club about yourself and/or ham radio?

I like to build my own antennas using a "3D printer" to make the insulated mounts and enclosures for the antennas. While I was away from amateur radio for a few years I got into "3D printers". I went to a "Bergen Maker Space" info session on HDTV antennas. Then after researching HDTV antennas further I build a Gary-Huberman UHF TV antenna with many "3D printed" mounting parts to hold the elements. This sparked back up my interest in amateur radio and since then I have built a 400MHz discone antenna and more recently a 2M 7 segment Yagi-Uda antenna. The Yagi-Uda's boom is about 100" long, has a calculated gain of 9dB, and is pointed toward the FLARC repeater. Now I can be on the Monday night "Near & Far Net" via 100% RF with my 5 watt HT and do not need to use EchoLink. My radios are a UHF DMR HT, 2M/70cm HT, and small 2M/70cm mobile in the car. I also started to build an SDR transceiver "Ensemble RXTX Softrock" kit many years ago but need to get back onto that project.

What other ham related clubs or organizations do you belong to?

I am also a member of BARA, Bergen County RACES, CERT as a town's EmComm person, and Amateur Radio Masons – Masonic Gathering Net. I am also a member of SKYWARN and just signed up for "ARES" with Gordon (W2TTT).



The Monday Night *Near and Far Net*

Who did I miss?? Let Ed (WX2R) know and we'll add you to our N&F roster and Hall of Fame.

The net runs every Monday at 2000 Eastern Time on the repeater. Everyone is welcome. EchoLink friendly!

Thanks for checking in!

WO2W
WX2R
W2JC
W2DLT
K2RJF
WA2BYX
K2TRW/BM2NHC
KC2TBD
KC2ZX
KD2BRV
KD2KLN
N1STU
N2ST
NQ2T
W2IP
W2KBF
W2NZ
W6SKT
WA2OWL
WI2W
WU2S
N2HIP
KD2BKD
KA2YRA
KD2NOG
KC2ZX
W2TAB
N2VHZ
W2TU
K2BIX
W2AAB
KD2NZW...and???

Eleven check-ins on August 7th, twelve on August 14th, a record number 17 on August 21st and 15 on August 28th ... quite remarkable numbers on hot Summer nights. Thanks to all.

The FLARC Antenna Project

An end-fed dipole project with great participation. The Friday night crew consisted of : Zach KC2RSS, Bennett KO2OK, Kevin K2KCC, Brian KD2KLN, Al WA2OWL, Tony K2ONY, Tony N2SIQ, Don N2PRT, Rick N2ZJY, John KD2NRS, Rob KD2NOG, and Fred W2ABE. The Saturday crew was made up of: Zach KC2RSS, Bennett KO2OK, Brian KD2KLN, Tony K2ONY, Tony N2SIQ, Don N2PRT, and Rob N2NOG. A thanks to our helpers: Randy WU2S, Karl W2KBF, Judith KC2TLM, and Steve WI2W. This is a project with so much interest, Steve reports that we will do it again!! A round of FLARC applause to Steve, Randy, and Karl for pulling it all together.



And we're underway!



A night of construction and a full house.



Collaboration & discussion as the antenna building continued.



Saturday brought field testing at Memorial Park



Steve (WI2W) gets the antennas on the air.



Lots of good conversation about all things antenna.

Thanks to W2KBF, WU2S and WI2W for the pictures!!

FLARC Night of Memories

A night 60+ years in the making, a reunion of members from earlier days of the club shared stories, history and reminiscences on August 18th. This first of what we hope will be many reunions and re-contacts with former members focused on early memories of the club, recollections of Frank Leonard (W2NPT), Field Days past, and members you remember. Besides the guys below, Jim Neufell (KC2GMT), Hal Kennedy (N4GG), Skip Osborne (K2RFJ), Roy Herman (WB2EOD) and Mark Reinen (K1RSE) joined on the conference call... Maine to Florida!



Pete (W2HP), Ed (WX2R/moderator), Gene (WO2W), Fred (W2AAB), Van (W2DLT), Neil (NU2R/foreground), Steve (WA2BYX), Tony (KA2TAM), Bob, WA2WYH, and Barry (WV2X). L To R.

A marvelous surprise was Fred and Barry's donation of a restored Heathkit AT-1 transmitter and an SX 99 receiver -- replicas of what the FLARC station used circa 1962-1965. A wonderful gift. Thanks guys!!



Barry and Fred with the replica first station FLARC equipment

W2TTT Makes The Cover of September QST!

A big congrats to Gordon for a tremendous cover story on the role of amateur radio at the annual New York City marathon. Gordon continues to be a bastion of public service support in the NNJ area and is a loyal FLARC member.



BTW, Gordon's story makes the second *QST* story in less than a year for the club and the third in a national publication (including *CQ*).

At Deadline:

Carol (KD2NMV) passed her General examination in August... congratulations!!

Karl (W2KBF) found a 2012 roster in his files and reports that with the club now with 130+ members, it is triple the size today of what it was back then.

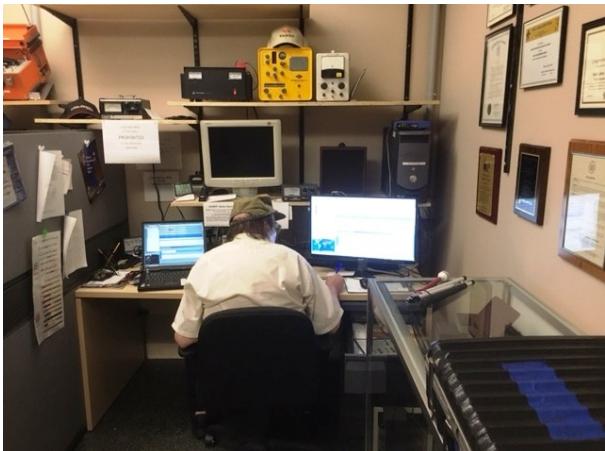
John (KD2NRS) took his new General privileges to heart with his first HF QSO to a ham in Ohio. with his new end fed antenna. Congrats!!

Norm(K2IJD) is back home after back surgery. Get well soon!!

North American QSO Party

FLARC participated in the annual North American QSO Party (phone) on August 19th with a larger turnout than last year. The club made 111 contacts (fewer than last year) but band conditions were generally poorer. The club also devoted considerably more time to getting new members and those who wanted to learn more about contesting on the air, continuing our tradition of being "casual contesters,"

A special thanks to all who took part -- W2DLT, N2ST, K2KCC, W2KBF, KC2LTM, KD2NRS, KC2ZX, N2AAM, W2ABE, KD2KLN, KC2TBD, KD2NZW, KD2GNY, W2JC, and WX2R.



"It sure gets lonely when 40m is dead"
thinks Mike (KC2ZX) as the day wears on.



Van (W2DLT) works with Dave (N2AAM) on a busier 20m band as John (KD2NRS) looks on.

Presidents Note (Continued)

August 21, 2017 - "Solar Eclipse Day" will be something to remember and talk about for months. Amazing enough the turn out for this was more than we could have ever expected. With club members and local people stopping by to check out what it was all about. We made some new friends and increased our membership once again. At this time I would like to send a **BIG** Thank You to Ed WX2R and his Publicity Committee for all they did to make Solar Eclipse Day so special. John (KD2NRS), you also made the day for all of us with your telescope on the back end of your pickup. What an experience for all. The FLARC has been recognized by Nathaniel Frissell for taking part in this momentus occasion. We received a Certificate that will be framed and place on our "Wall of Achievements" in the club.

As the month of September starts the radio club is planning other things that you may be interested in volunteering for. Please take a look at our website calendar for updates.

Until next time

Judith, KC2LTM
President

More Congratulations!

Pete (KD2BMX) reports the results of the August 26, 2017 FLARC VEC Amateur Radio Exam Sessions:

Total Number of Candidates served: 12
(a near record).

| Name | Call Sign | License Earned |
|-------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Faustino B Lucero | KD2OBW | Technician |
| Rajan Rana | W2JAR | General |
| William J Chwalyk | KD2JGO | General |
| Bruce F Kalogera | KC2UKS | Extra |
| Luis D Davila | KD2OBX | Technician |
| Robert Dietz | KD2OAC | General |
| Thomas Cohn | KD2OBY | Technician |
| David Eisenberg | WB2AJG | Extra |

MASTER EVENT CALENDAR

September 10 ARRL New Jersey State Convention (Mullica Hill)
September 15 Field Day 2018 Preliminary Planning (Clubhouse)
September 16-17 NJ QSO Party (Clubhouse)
September 23 Portable Day With BARA (Memorial Park)
October 15 Fair Lawn Street Fair [club activity]
October 20 Ria Jairam (N2RJ) "YLs, SDR and Setting Up A World Class Station" (Senior Center)
November 17 Jonathan Taylor (K1RFD) "Developments In VOIP & Related Technologies" (Senior Center)
November 24 FLARC Auction (Senior Center)
December 1 FLARC ANNUAL MEETING and Dinner (Senior Center)
December 15 Mike Lisenco (N2YBB) ARRL Hudson Division President (Senior Center)

Upcoming Activities

TBA Radio Astronomy and Amateur Radio
TBA W1TP Enigma Presentation w/Fair Lawn Public Library
TBA EMCOMM and its local impact
TBA FT8 For Dummies
TBA The 2018 FLARC Member Survey Summary



Hidetsugu Yagi's 130th Birthday Google Doodle

Follow FLARC ON THE WEB

Facebook: <http://facebook.FairLawnARC.org>
Twitter: @FairLawnARC
Blog: <http://blog.FairLawnARC.org>
Youtube: <http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

FLARC VEC Exams

Our next test session is scheduled for **Saturday, September 9th** beginning at 09:00 at the Community Center. No advanced registration is required but always appreciated. The fee is \$15.00 (cash or check).

Please bring positive identification (license, passport, etc.), your original license and a copy, original CSCE and a copy (if credit is needed).

The full exam schedule is on the club calendar at the FairLawnARC.org website. For further information contact VE-Liaison@FairLawnARC.org.

Please refer also to the "License Exams" link on the main website--

<http://testing.FairLawnARC.org>

**We appreciate your support of the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club!
This is your Club! Be part of it!**

Theoretics Demystified

Someone recently asked how a signal can "jump" out of a wire into space to be used for communication. How this happens is that whenever current is put through a coil a magnetic field is generated around that coil. When it is alternating, the field expands and collapses but at sub-radio frequencies the field is too weak to be detected at any real distance.

When the frequency is raised into what we call "radio frequencies" the signal can reach out to very great distances and be detected and used for communications. Adding an antenna consisting of a wire or rod to each end of the excited coil, with a combined length equal to half of the wavelength of the frequency in question, results in an electrical current flowing in the added conductors. This results in magnetic lines circulating around the conductors and at the same time depending on the instantaneous electron flow in the conductors there is an electrical field generated between the two conductors. In this way both a magnetic and electrical field are generated.

This why it is important to have the antenna elements as close to, or exactly at, the wavelength or half wavelength as possible when using a dipole -- as in the example given. This also keeps as little as possible of the signal from being reflected back into the signal generating device (transmitter).

These are the characteristics of a resonant antenna but an antenna does not have to be resonant to radiate. As far as polarization is concerned, a vertical antenna causes the electrical wave to be vertical with the circular magnetic lines of force spreading out like expanding donuts. A horizontal antenna has horizontal electrical lines of force and vertical circular magnetic lines of force expanding outward. It is possible to have circular polarization with lines of force spiraling outward from the radiating antenna.

Fred W2ABE



2017 FLARC Speaker Series Locations:

SPEAKERS WHO ARE FLARC MEMBERS:
FLARC CLUBHOUSE

SPEAKERS WHO ARE INVITED GUESTS:
FAIR LAWN SENIOR CENTER

FLARC And The ARRL

As you know, the ARRL represents the interests of amateurs in the US and takes an active role in protecting spectrum and growing the hobby. FLARC is fortunate in having four of its members serve in the Hudson Division:

- Rachel Weiss – AJ4WD/Assistant Director
- Jim Joyce- K2ZO/Assistant Director
- Lee Smith- KD2DRS/Affiliated Club Coordinator/NNJ
- Ed Efchak- WX2R/Public Relations Coordinator/NNJ

In our January member survey, **85%** of respondents said that they were ARRL members. Support the ARRL as it represents you. If you are not a member, see any of the above or our club President for more information or go to www.arrl.org for more details.

August 2017 Blog Traffic

August traffic was the second highest of the year in views and visitors; second only to last month... thanks to all!! Here is the data:

| | August 2017 | August 2016 | Change |
|----------|-------------|-------------|--------|
| Views | 663 | 308 | +115% |
| Visitors | 275 | 94 | +193% |
| Posts | 17 | 16 | +6% |

And we continue to grow!! There is new content nearly every day so it's really worth the look to both FairLawnARC.org and the blog.

<http://blog.FairLawnARC.org>

Congratulations!

Pete (KD2BMX) reports the results of the August 12, 2017 FLARC VEC Amateur Radio Exam Sessions:

Total Number of Candidates served: 5

| Name | Call | License Earned |
|-------------------|--------|----------------|
| Josh Ford | KD2NZV | Technician |
| Andrew Gladfelter | KD2NZW | Technician |
| Brian Grilk | KD2OAZ | Technician |

North Jersey's Ham Marketplace!
Check Out The Blog For Good Stuff
Best Area Resource Around!!

<http://blog.FairLawnARC.org>

BEQUEATHS AND DONATIONS

Planned gifts usually imply the family donation of amateur equipment to the club when someone has become a Silent Key. But it can be more. Club members might consider making a gift through a will or trust; gifts that help provide lifetime income to the club. Consult with your lawyer, estate planner or tax advisor if you feel such a gift is worthy.

About The Club

The Resonator is published monthly and is the official (and only) newsletter of The Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club. FLARC was established in 1956 and has met continuously since inception.

The club meets every Friday at 7PM at the club station in The Fair Lawn Community Center, 10-10 20th Street, Fair Lawn, NJ. Business meetings are the first Friday of the month at 7:30 PM.

Visitors are always welcome at our meetings.

FLARC operates the W2NPT repeater (145.470- PL 167.9) located atop the Community Center. The analog repeater is open to all amateurs for use without restrictions.

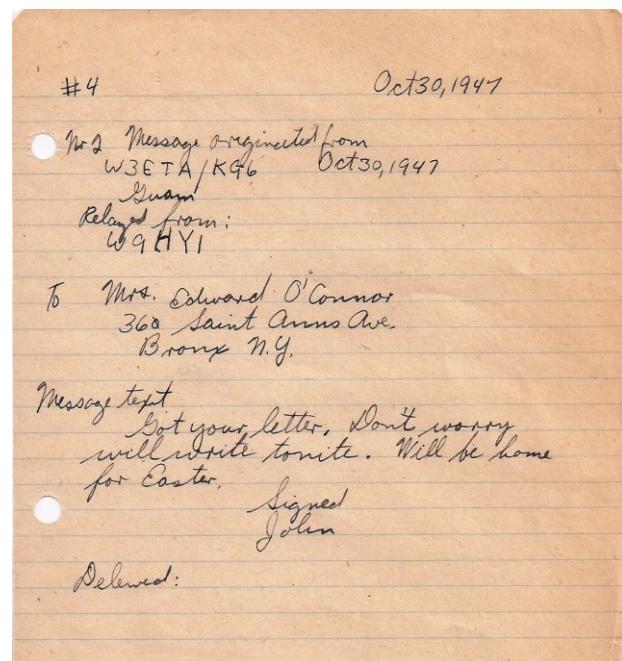
The club has approximately 120 members.
Dues are currently \$25 per year/\$20 for new members.

For more information, please see our website, at

<http://membership.FairLawnARC.org>

A Look Back

This is a note regarding traffic handling in 1947 from Guam to the Bronx. Courtesy of Stan Sanders.



Who Says Ham Radio Is Boring?™



**FAIR LAWN'S
TECHNOLOGY HOUSE!**



The Solar Eclipse QSO Party

August 21, 2017

The club participated in the *Solar Eclipse QSO Party* as one of three public demonstrations around this scientific examination of the ionosphere in northern New Jersey. To our surprise, more than 100 visitors showed up at the station which we advertised as a "Solar Eclipse Science Experiment" for a two hour period around peak totality in our area. We held brief talks about what we were doing, led by Karl (W2KBF), and what amateur radio was all about. As an added unadvertised bonus, John (KD2NRS) brought his solar telescope so there was considerable excitement both inside and outside the station. We logged just over 60 contacts (about 4,800 points) and had a great time participating in both pure science and in talking up amateur radio. We received great press coverage in *The Record/northjersey.com* -- the only non-astronomical event coverage of the day! Thanks to everyone who took part and helped to make a once in a lifetime day. And thanks to our first time operators!!



Tom (N2ST) logs during the eclipse



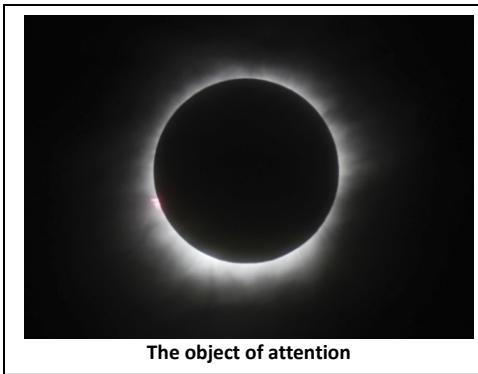
Part of the crowd inside the station



Part of the crowd outside with John (KD2NRS)



Karl (W2KBF) explains the science behind the experiment



The object of attention

Solar Eclipse QSO Party: A Thank You!!



Certificate of Participation from ARRL/HamSci

Thanks to W2KBF, KO2OK, KC2TBD, N2ST, W6SKT, KD2MLR, KD2MYM, KD2KLC, KC2LTM, K3GDX, W2DLT, W2JC, WX2R.

A special shout out to John (KD2NRS) for bringing along the solar telescope and making it a once-in-a-lifetime day for our guests.

See The Record/northjersey.com story at:
<http://www.northjersey.com/story/news/environment/2017/08/21/north-jersey-looks-toward-sky-moon-partially-eclipses-sun/581332001/>



The street signs take a day off on August 22nd.

Veep Beeps

It has been a busy summer at the club but there is much more to come!

There is always something to learn on Friday nights, what with all of the many aspects of ham radio and the rag chewing that goes on among the new and experienced alike.

Ham radio is a hobby that is to be fun but also has a serious side in that we hams are ready to provide communication in the event of a disaster or during civic events. If you have not been to a club meeting, then come on down!

Fred W2ABE

This Space Is Blank... For Now

The Publicity Committee is looking for local area community activities that the club should participate in during 2018.

Let any committee member (see page 2) know of events or groups in the local area that we should participate in or with.

More Notes:

Good catch to Dave (KD2MOB) for noting that Councilman Zharnest gave a shout-out to FLARC at the July council meeting about how impressed he was at Field Day.

No net control on September 4th -- Labor Day.

Correction to note in the August *Resonator*: The radio club members, Fred (W2ABE) and Bennett (KO2OK) were the two men that did the climbing, fixed and tested the beam antenna.

Tech Talk: Power To The People!

No, not a return to the 1960s, but electric power in the 21st century.

The steadily growing renewable energy industry has caused component prices to drop over the last few years. Solar panels, charge controllers, and batteries are more affordable than ever. Individual home owners are becoming their own electric power companies by installing complete generation and storage systems. The Tesla Powerwall is just one example of a complete package.

At the same time, there is an increasing interest in electric automobiles. While there are some fine commercial products, there are still many folks with the interest and capability to build their own electric vehicle.

These trends, combined with the willingness to experiment common to most radio amateurs, formed a community of people who are building their own electric power systems on the cheap. There are many helpful YouTube videos and websites that offer guidance on how to recycle old laptop batteries and other components to build an equivalent of a commercial product.

This is just the old trade-off of time versus money familiar to all hams. You can either buy a commercial product ready-to-go at some expense, or gather inexpensive parts over time and assemble them into a working system. With some planning, care and persistence you can build a safe and efficient power system that rivals the big guys.

Even if you don't build the product, there is a lot of value in watching the YouTube videos to learn about the fabrication techniques, testing methods and safety precautions.

May the power be with you!

73s

Randy WU2S

Tech Talk (Continued)



References:

- 1) Motherboard article "DIY Powerwall Builders Are Using Recycled Laptop Batteries to Power Their Homes" = http://motherboard.vice.com/en_us/article/kzz7zm/diy-powerwall-builders-are-using-recycled-laptop-batteries-to-power-their-homes
- 2) Community DIY Powerwalls = <http://diypowerwalls.com/>
- 3) YouTube videos = https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=diy+powerwall
- 4) Make a DIY Powerwall just like TESLA for \$300 = <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CkF-1sxmUSM>
- 5) Jehu Garcia YouTube channel = <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcMfCkN1juSa49DJFYltOTw>
- 6) HBPowerwall YouTube channel = <https://www.youtube.com/user/nocrf50here>

Save The Date: September 15th For 2018 Field Day Planning

The **September 22nd** monthly program will be a working session on Field Day 2018. Here is a summary of our earlier post-mortem.

There was agreement that this was the best Field Day ever and that all the pre-planning helped in a very well executed event. There was considerable interest and input from the membership looking ahead to 2018.

A number of suggestions for improvement were offered:

- We need gain antennas for HF.*
- Add an 80 Meter vertical in addition to the dipole.*
- We need written schedules for operators in tent.*
- We need 3 to 4 available stations so that potential operators are not turned away.*
- We will need more volunteer operators to man additional stations.*
- Suggest that we run 3A with the 3rd station offering flexible operations for drop-in operators.*
- It was noisy in the tent with 2 stations. 3 would be even worse.*
- Purchase one or two additional IC-746 PRO II radios and get permission to take all 3 or 4 to Field Day. If club members learn on one radio, they will be good to go on the others. One radio (#3) could be used as the GOTA station on Saturday afternoon but become a regular station in the evening. The other 746 (#4) could serve as the VHF station.*
- We need to find a way to make members and visitors feel more welcome.*
- We need to have a map of the site so that the Ridgewood tent is placed properly.*



September 2017 Meeting Notes

FLARC Business Meeting 1 September 2017 President Judith KC2LTM called the meeting to order at 7:31p.m. The members rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Judith KC2LTM asked if there were any visitors or new members present, or if any members had upgraded their licenses. John KD2NRS announced that he successfully upgraded to a General license and the members present applauded his accomplishment.

President Judith KC2LTM requested Secretary Randy WU2S to determine if a quorum was present to conduct club business. Randy called the roll of officers and trustees and all except Treasurer Nancy N2FWI were present. Secretary Randy WU2S announced that the minutes from the August meeting were emailed to all members and that they had also been published in the latest edition of the club's newsletter, *The Resonator*. He asked the members present if there were any corrections or amendments needed. There were none so Gene WO2W moved to accept the minutes as published and Matt KD2MLR seconded the motion. The motion passed by acclamation.

President Judith KC2LTM read the current treasurer's report. She noted that annual dues collection for 2018 would begin in November. John KD2NRS moved to accept the report as read and Matt KD2MLR seconded the motion. The motion passed by acclamation.

President Judith KC2LTM noted that the September issue of the ARRL magazine QST has a cover article on last year's New York City marathon written by member Gordon W2TTT.

President Judith KC2LTM announced that Frank K3GDX donated many old electronics magazines to the club's library. She mentioned that both the local Community News and the Bergen Record featured articles on FLARC's solar eclipse event. She reminded members that Karl W2KBF emailed the members a PDF copy of the news item.

Continued on page 2.

September 2017 Meeting Notes (2)

President Judith KC2LTM said that member Bruce KC2UKS had undergone heart surgery today at Morristown Hospital and is doing well. All FLARC members wish Bruce a speedy recovery.

Secretary Randy WU2S reported for the Technical Committee. He said that he donated two routers to the club to help connect the QSO logging computers. Jim W2JC installed the routers and connected the computers. Randy noted that the Technical Committee had requested an IM suppression panel for the W2NPT repeater. Jim W2JC noted that this addition may allow us to restore the PL tone on the output so that the buzz of digital transmissions would not be heard by purely analog repeater users. Several members offered discussion points and in the end, it was agreed that the IM suppression panel should be ordered if Paul W2IP thought that it would improve the repeater and if it could be returned in 30 days if it did not help.

Randy WU2S said that the donated antennas near operating position #1 seemed to be of no immediate use to the club and may be offered for sale. Gene WO2W noted that one of the antennas appeared to be a rotatable multi-band dipole and might find a use on tower #2 with the 6-meter beam. Our two Field Day captains Steve WA2BYX and Tom N2ST both thought that this antenna would not be useful for Field Day. Karl W2KBF suggested that we consider a remotely-controlled antenna tuner to use on the roof. Zach KC2RSS said that there is a spare coax cable available on tower #2. In the end, the members agreed that the Technical Committee should research possible uses for the donated antennas and the feasibility of a remotely-controlled antenna tuner.

Bennet KO2OK asked if we had purchased the replacement parts for the Mosely beam antenna that we repaired a few weeks ago. Randy WU2S replied that we had not and would check with Paul W2IP to see if the parts could be obtained and installed before the weather became unsuitable for repair work.

September 2017 Meeting Notes (3)

Ed WX2R reported for the Publicity Committee. He announced that we will have a Field Day event review and 2018 planning session on September 15. On October 20th, guest speaker Ria Jairam N2RJ will tell us about software-defined radios (SDR) and contesting. On November 17th guest speaker Jonathan Taylor K1RFD will tell us about voice-over-IP (VoIP) telephony for amateur radio. On December 15, our ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco N2YBB will talk to us about League activities.

Ed remarked that August was a very busy month for the club. The solar eclipse event was very popular and saw 80 to 100 people attend – many from the general public. The local Community News and the Bergen Record newspapers had article about our event. Karl W2KBF sent a PDF copy of the Community News articles to the members mailing list.

Ed WX2R reminded members that Sunday, October 15 is the annual Fair Lawn River Road Street Fair and that FLARC will again have a booth there. He said that Kennedy High School of Paterson has contacted him as a follow-up to a meeting at the Great Falls events. The school's STEM program wants to arrange a visit to FLARC for its students.

Ed WX2R noted that the Monday night net is very active and achieved a record number of check-ins (17) during a recent session.

President Judith KC2LTM announced that Portable Day will be held on Saturday September 23 in Memorial Park. We will again conduct this event in cooperation with BARA, who will bring food for the participants.

Vice President Fred W2ABE announced that he will obtain a large yearly calendar to mount on one of the doors to show planned events. Fred said that with this calendar members would see many of the upcoming events at a glance.

Continued on page 2.

September 2017 Meeting Notes (4)

President Judith KC2LTM asked if there was any old business. Karl W2KBF said that he would like the club to consider several ideas for club meetings. He remarked that there had been some discussion about meeting at another place or on a different night due to the high utilization of the Community Center on Friday nights. Jim W2JC and Gene WO2W described the possibility of using the Art Room as an alternative meeting space. President Judith KC2LTM directed Gene WO2W to ask Superintendent Jimmy Graff about using that room. Vice President Fred W2ABE mentioned that he would volunteer to open the club on Thursday nights for members to work on projects. The advantage is that members could use the workbenches in an uncrowded session. Fred also suggested that club committees may want to consider meeting on Thursday Nights.

Tom N2ST announced that the New Jersey QSO Party is on September 16 and 17. The club will operate on both days. Tom said that in 2015, FLARC was ranked 4th in the state and in 2016 we were ranked 3rd in the state for the number of contacts made. Van W2DLT said that the NJ QSO Party is a wonderful opportunity for members to experience what it is like to be on the receiving end of a contest pile-up.

Matt KD2MLR announced that he is looking for assistance for the William Paterson College radio club. On Tuesday, September 12 the college will have a club day to showcase extra-curricular activities and on Thursday, September 14 the college radio club will hold its first meeting. Secretary Randy WU2S said that he is committed to assist Matt with a Mesh network demonstration and Vice President Fred W2ABE volunteered to demonstrate software defined radio.

John KD2NRS said that because of his recent upgrade to General class he became interested in Morse code. He asked if the club could conduct a class to learn the code. Ed WX2R noted that one of the Volunteer Examiners at a recent test session suggested the same thing and that he would see if that person is available to conduct some sessions.

September 2017 Meeting Notes (5)

Peggy KD2MYN asked the members present how many people still operate using Morse code and over a dozen members raised their hands. Nomar NP4H announced that he is conducting Morse code classes at the Masonic Lodge in Secaucus on Monday nights and that all are welcome to attend the sessions. Tom N2ST said that he has a set of Code Quick cassette tapes that are excellent for learning Morse code. He is willing to lend them to interested members. Vice President Fred W2ABE and Nomar NP4H both remarked that there are smartphone apps that help people learn the code.

Steve WA2BYX asked the members present if anyone was planning to operate VHF during the upcoming QSO party but there did not seem to be any interest. Jim W2JC asked about the disk drive for the club's video archives.

President Judith KC2LTM said that the purchase was approved and that Thom W2NZ has possession of the storage device. Ed WX2R asked if anyone is interested in operating during the upcoming VHF Contest next weekend and only two people indicated an interest.

Having no further business, President Judith KC2LTM asked for a motion to adjourn. John KD2NRS so moved and Zack KD2RSS seconded the motion. The members present voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:33p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy WU2S, Secretary



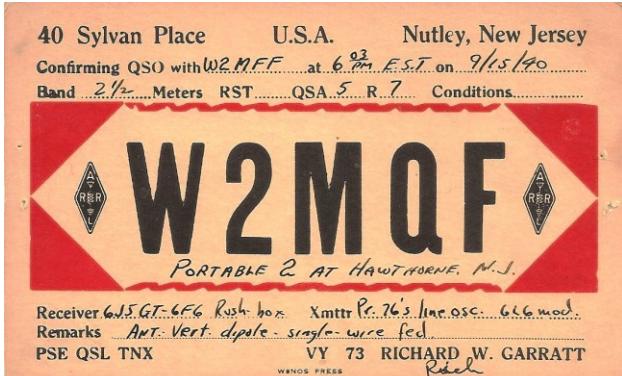
The replica FLARC station circa 1960 up close (see page 5)

A Look Back

Here is a 1940 QSL from W2MQF/portable 2 located in Hawthorne to W2MFF in Passaic. Interesting in how even local QSO's were followed by QSL's.

W2MQF moved from Nutley to Ridgewood (a 1951 Callbook address) and his licensed expired in 2000.

Note the frequency of "2.5 meter" band and the equipment. BTW, does anyone know what QSA was??



From the FLARC collection

The FLARC Antenna Project



Don N2PRT



Bennett KO2OK

Past FLARC Member Profiles

Here is a list of past member features and we welcome your recommendations for new profiles -- including your own.

| Month | Name | Call Sign |
|--------------|--------|-----------|
| January 2016 | Pete | KB2BMX |
| February | Marco | KC2ZMA |
| March | Ron | KC2TBD |
| April | Kai | K2TRW |
| May | Larry | WA2ALY |
| June | Dave | NK2Q |
| July | Steve | WI2W |
| August | Thom | N2DI |
| September | Brian | KD2KLN |
| October | Brad | KD2GNY |
| November | Al | WA2OWL |
| December | George | W3EH |
| January 2017 | Fred | W2ABE |
| February | Dave | KD2MOB |
| March | Randy | WU2S |
| April | Lee | KD2DRS |
| May | Gene | WO2W |
| June | Carol | KD2NMV |
| July | Kevin | KC2KCC |
| August | Robert | KD2NOG |
| September | Robert | KD2BKD |

By the way, Randy (WU2S) has compiled a binder of all back issues of *The Resonator* and it's located in the club office. Thanks Randy!!! Back issues are also available on our website.

News and Noteworthy

Beginning this month all applicants filing an FCC Form 605 for a new license, a modification and/or renewal of an existing license, or an amendment to a pending application for any of these purposes will be required to answer the "felony question"-- that is whether the applicant has ever been convicted of a felony. The FCC said this revision is "consistent with application forms for other Commission services."

The new FCC Form 605 must be used on and after August 21, 2017; the current Form 605 will become obsolete and no longer will be accepted. The change applies to both paper and electronic applications.